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LETTER DATED 6 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I should like to refer to my recent report to the Security Council (S/24767) conveying my proposals for the implementation of resolution 781 (1992). As mentioned in paragraph 3 (f) of that report, and in keeping with operative paragraph 4 of the resolution, I should like to share with the Council the information received by UNPROFOR so far on possible violations of the ban on military flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

There appear to have been some 24 flights of fixed or rotary wing aircraft in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina other than those exempted in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of resolution 781 (1992). Details as to the time and itinerary of these flights are attached in an annex to this letter.

In addition to the above, on 26 October, an unidentified single engined aircraft flying from the West overflew UNPROFOR check points in Sector North and landed 8 km inside Bosnia and Herzegovina.

At this point, based on the information provided, it is not possible to determine whether the flights detected were of a military nature and, therefore, would fall under the ban established by the Security Council. Nor was UNPROFOR in a position at the time to determine the airports from which the aircraft concerned were operating. In order to establish whether a flight in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina constitutes a violation of the provisions of Security Council resolution 781, it is essential to corroborate the information obtained by technical means with observation on the ground. The current deployment of a limited number of UNPROFOR personnel will facilitate such observation, pending the full deployment of the resources and personnel which has been proposed in my report of 5 November 1992.

However, you may wish to note that the specific allegation of an air attack on 31 October at 10.45 a.m. conveyed to the Council by the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/24750 of 2 November 1992), cannot be confirmed from the information available to UNPROFOR.

As required, I will continue to report regularly to the Security Council on any possible violations of the ban established under resolution 781 (1992).

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

ANNEX

FLIGHTS IN THE AIRSPACE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA NOT AUTHORIZED BY UNPROFOR (AWACS INFORMATION)

SRL	DATE	TIME OF OBSERVATION (UTC) Start	End	REMARKS	HEADING, SPEED, ALTITUDE
1	22 Oct	12.21	12.24	Detected 20NM East of Sarajevo in vicinity of Sokolac, heading North-Westerly toward Sehbebovici where it faded from radar coverage.	NW 290 degrees magnetic 50 KTS (58 MPH) low
2	22 Oct	13.35	-	Detected 50NM South of Sarajevo, in vicinity of Plana, heading South-Easterly at low speed and low altitude.	
3	23 Oct	12.39	-	Detected 20NM East of Sarajevo in vicinity of Sokolac, faded from radar coverage 5NM East of Sarajevo.	SW 250 degrees magnetic. 275 Kts/(315MPH) 1000 feet
4	23 Oct	12.40	-	Detected 15NM North-East of Sarajevo, heading North-Westerly, faded from radar coverage 6NM East of Vares.	NW 300 degrees magnetic 325KTS (375MPH) UNK altitude
5	23 Oct	15.08	-	Detected 20NM East of Sarajevo in vicinity of Sokolac, heading SW, lost radar contact 5NM East of Sarajevo.	SW 255 degrees magnetic 300 KTS (345 MPH)
6	27 Oct	07.28	07.53	Detected 40NM SE of Sarajevo, in vicinity of Gacko, faded from radar coverage near Bula.	NE 045 degrees magnetic 60 KTS (70 MPH)
7	27 Oct	15.12	15.16	Detected 20NM North-East of Sarajevo, in vicinity of Zljebovi, faded from radar coverage near Fojnica.	West 270 degrees magnetic 300 KTS (345 MPH)
8	28 Oct	13.34	15.36	Several aircraft were detected operating 26NM North-East of Gorazde in the vicinity of Kremna, which is outside the no fly zone, near the border of Bosnia Herzegovina. The aircraft were manoeuvreing probably at low level, and were detected only for short periods.	Not available

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SRL	DATE	TIME OF OBSERVATION (UTC) Start	End	REMARKS	HEADING, SPEED, ALTITUDE
9	31 Oct	12.37	12.57	Detected 25NM South-East of Sarajevo manoeuvering in a generally SE direction from Bogovici to vicinity of Zaborak, where it faded from radar coverage.	SE 110 degrees magnetic (M) 130 KNTS (150 MPH) 2600 feet
10	31 Oct	12.49	12.58	Detected 22NM East of Sarajevo, in vicinity of Rakitnica, flew NW and faded from radar coverage 10NM East of Olovo.	NW 350 degrees M 190 KNTS (220 MPH) 500 feet
11	31 Oct	15.37	15.43	Detected 48NM North-East of Sarajevo track manoeuvering over Gacko Non Directional Navigation Beacon (NDB).	Very little movement. Slow speed. 1000 feet
12	31 Oct	11.44	11.53	Detected 46NM NE of Sarajevo, in vicinity of Loznica and faded from radar coverage 3NM East of Bijilina.	North 360 degrees M 120 KNTS (138MPH) Low altitude
13	31 Oct	11.45	11.48	Detected 34NM North-East of Sarajevo in vicinity of Loznica, and faded from radar coverage 3NM East of Bijeljina. Close correlation of serials 12 and 13 indicates two aircraft operating in close proximity or a misinterpretation of radar data resulting in a double initiation of same track.	NW 350 degrees M 240 KNTS (275 MPH) Low altitude
14	1 Nov	05.10	05.15	Detected 3NM West of Stolac heading NW, tracked for 57NM, faded from radar coverage 8NM SW of Livno. Speed indicates possible jet aircraft.	NW 310 degrees 300 KTS (345 MPH) 3000 feet
15	1 Nov	11.57	12.13	Detected 3NM East of Doboj heading South, tracked for 10NM before fading from radar coverage. Possibly light aircraft or helicopter.	South 170 degrees 110 KTS (128 MPH) UNK alt.
16	2 Nov	12.23	12.37	Aircraft was detected 25NM North-West of Banja-Luka, on the border of the No Fly Zone overhead Bos Gradiska, heading NE. The aircraft was observed for 20NM and faded from radar coverage in the vicinity of Kutina. The speed and flight characteristics indicate a probable helicopter.	NE 320 degrees magnetic 80 KTS (92 MPH). Altitude unknown.

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SRL	DATE	TIME OF OBSERVATION (UTC) Start	End	REMARKS	HEADING, SPEED, ALTITUDE
17	3 Nov	09.30	09.53	Slow speed contact was detected 3NM South of Banja Luka City, heading toward Banja Luka Airport. Track faded from radar coverage 5NM South-West of the airport.	NNE 005 degrees slow, low
18	3 Nov	11.18	12.23	Detected 30NM East of Gorazde, in the vicinity of Strpci, heading North-East out of the "No Fly Zone". Track faded from radar coverage 2NM North of Sainovina.	NE 020 degrees 72 KTS Alt UNK
19	3 Nov	13.54	14.06	Detected 30NM North-East of Gorazde in vicinity of Bjaina Basta, heading into the "No Fly Zone". Contact faded from radar coverage in vicinity of Bijeljina.	NW 340 degrees 280 KTS Alt UNK
20	3 Nov	14.40	14.52	Detected 30NM North-West of Mostar, outside the "No Fly Zone" in vicinity of Imotski and headed into the area. Faded from radar coverage 10NM South-West of Prozor.	NE 325 degrees 95 KTS Alt UNK
21	3 Nov	15.14	15.19	Detected 45NM North-West of Mostar near Dragnjic heading South-East and faded from radar coverage 4NM North of Duvno.	SE 135 degrees 115 KTS Low alt
22	3 Nov	15.46	15.49	Detected 25NM West of Mostar in the vicinity of Tihaljina. Faded from radar coverage 2NM East of Imotski.	NW 340 degrees 200 KTS Alt UNK
23	4 Nov	08.05	08.08	Detected 5NM North-East of Titov Drvar. Aircraft was tracked for 15NM, heading South, before it faded from radar coverage 16 NM North-East of Knin. Type unknown.	South 180 degrees SPD UNK Alt UNK
24	4 Nov	11.53	11.54	Detected 4NM West-North-West of Brcko. Aircraft was tracked for 4NM, heading East, before fading from radar coverage 8NM North-West of Brcko. Type unknown.	East 090 degrees SPD UNK Alt UNK